



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Buffalo District

FACT SHEET

March 2014

SEAWAY LANDFILL SITE – TONAWANDA, NY Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

Location

- The Seaway FUSRAP site is located in the Town of Tonawanda, NY approximately 10 miles north of downtown Buffalo

Site History and Project Description

- The Seaway Site property comprises about 100 acres referred to as the Seaway Industrial Park. It is owned by the Sands Mobile Park Corporation and Benderson Development Company
- The Seaway Site is a commercial landfill used for the disposal of various types of wastes from 1930 to 1993
- This site became contaminated with FUSRAP-related material when material from the Linde Site that was at the neighboring Ashland I Site was moved by Ashland Oil to the landfill
- Approximately 90% of the site has been used for disposal, and approximately 67% has been capped by the property owner in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)
- Areas of known FUSRAP related material were intentionally left uncapped. Later investigations showed some FUSRAP material in areas that were capped, and some FUSRAP

material outside of the footprint of the landfill

- The Corps of Engineers will be conducting a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Remedial Action that includes containment by capping and removal of the soils contaminated with radium, thorium, and uranium not already contained within the landfill cap

Importance

- For the current land use, the risk to human health is below the risk limits promulgated under Federal environmental laws; however, elevated levels of radionuclides exist that exceed Federal environmental requirement criteria and limitations promulgated under Federal environmental laws

Consequences

- Potential for long-term, adverse human health effects
- Adverse political reactions by Federal, state, and local representatives
- Adverse public reaction
- This site is a hazardous waste landfill; certain future site use may be limited due to the presence of FUSRAP contamination

Project Phase	Estimated Federal Cost	Funding through FY13	FY14 Requirement	FY14 Appropriation	FY15 Requirement	FY15 Budget
ROD/Remediation	\$44.2M	\$10.3M	\$325k	\$325k	\$200k	TBD

Project Sponsor/Customer

- Project Sponsor/Customer: The project sponsor is the US Congress. Customers include property owners (Sands Mobile Park/Benderson Development), affected communities and elected leaders, and local, state,

and federal environmental and health agencies

Congressional Interests

- Representative Brian Higgins D-NY-26
- Senator Charles Schumer D-NY
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D-NY

Current Status

- The Corps released the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Seaway Site in November 2009. The ROD documents the final Selected Remedy for the Seaway Site, which is Containment with Limited Offsite Disposal
- The Corps is currently beginning preliminary Remedial Design activities. Under current anticipated funding, Remedial Action is projected to commence between 2018 and 2019

Issues

- The public and NYSDEC do not agree with the Selected Remedy of Containment with Limited Offsite Disposal for the FUSRAP materials at the Seaway Site

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